

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 00304 061733Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 PM-04 SP-02 INR-07 IO-13
DHA-02 DPW-01 /060 W
-----061738Z 094049 /41
R 061727Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4476

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 00304

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ICRC, PARM, PFOR, NATO, GW
SUBJECT: FRG POSITION ON DRAFT PROTOCOL ON
INTERNATIONAL LAW IN ARMED CONFLICT

REFS: (A) BONN 00233; (B) BETTAUER/PFUND TELCON 1/5/77

1. EMBOFF INFORMALLY CHECKED WITH VON MARSCHALL TO OBTAIN HIS VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY AND TIMING OF POSSIBLE VISIT BY DEPUTY LEGAL ADVISER ALDRICH BEFORE HIS SCHEDULED MID-FEBRUARY VISIT.
2. VON MARSCHALL STATED THAT A PROPOSAL TO SEEK TO CLARIFY AND RESOLVE INTER-MINISTERIAL DIFFERENCES WITHIN FRG GOVERNMENT WAS ON FRG FOREIGN MINISTER'S DESK. ACTION ON IT MIGHT TAKE SOME TIME, AND CLARIFICATION OF FRG VIEWS WAS NOT LIKELY BEFORE EARLY FEBRUARY.
3. THE GERMAN SIDE WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE ALDRICH BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY, BUT VON MARSCHALL SAID THERE WOULD BE LITTLE NEW THAT GERMAN SIDE COULD TELL ALDRICH BEFORE INNER-GERMAN POSITION IS CLARIFIED, AND
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LITTLE IT COULD SAY ABOUT DIFFERING GERMAN VIEWS IN ADDITION TO WHAT WAS REPORTED IN REFTEL. HE SAID HE DID NOT WISH "TO MAKE PUBLIC" CURRENT GERMAN INTERNAL DIFFERENCES.

4. DURING CALL TO CANADIAN EMBASSY DCM DAVID MILLER, PER STATE 313315 (1976), MILLER WELCOMED POSSIBILITY

OF ALDRICH VISIT, AND INVITED ALDRICH TO STAY AT HIS HOME SHOULD HE COME.

5. COMMENT: IN VIEW OF CURRENT STAGE OF GERMAN PROCESS TO RESOLVE INTERNAL DIFFERENCES, AND VON MARSCHALL STATEMENT, IT MAY WELL BE THAT ALDRICH VISIT IN BONN WOULD NOT PROVE VERY USEFUL AT PRESENT TIME. ON THE OTHER HAND, SUCH VISIT IN NEAR FUTURE MIGHT BE ABLE FAVORABLY TO INFLUENCE OUTCOME OF INTERNAL GERMAN PROCESS OF POLICY FORMULATION. IN ANY EVENT, VON MARSCHALL PROMISED TO INFORM EMBASSY AS SOON AS GERMAN POSITION IS CLARIFIED AND HE WOULD BE FREE TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH ALDRICH. EMBASSY WILL, OF COURSE, REPORT AS SOON AS IT IS SO INFORMED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERNATIONAL LAW, WAR, AGREEMENT DRAFT, HUMAN RIGHTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN00304
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770005-1316
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770176/aaaacoqy.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 627ab8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 77 BONN 233
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3654897
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG POSITION ON DRAFT PROTOCOL ON INTERNATIONAL LAW IN ARMED CONFLICT
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, GE, US, GW, ICRC, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/627ab8dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009